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MOH HEALTH
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1940.

INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE COWES URBAN DISTRICT

BY

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To the Members of the Cowes Urban District Council :—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the annual report for 1940, the second report during the present war. On the instructions of the Ministry of Health (Circular 2314) the report is an interim one and contains mainly vital statistics.

The year 1940 was on the main, a healthy one. The surprising features of the statistics compared with the year 1939 which was only partly a war year, are the lower birth rate, the smaller number of illegitimate births and the lower death rate. One would have expected all these to be increased during war. The number of cases of notifiable infectious disease was (excluding Tuberculosis) only 15 and if Pneumonia is also excluded the number falls to 4.

Although the infantile mortality rate has risen since the previous year it still remains well below the rate for the country generally.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
W. S. WALLACE,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.
GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	5542
Population (Estimated Mid-year 1940)	16670
Number of inhabited houses end of 1940 as per rate book	4580
Rateable value	£110192
Sum represented by a penny rate	£411

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

These are unchanged since the last report.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births :—			
Legitimate	213	107	106
Illegitimate	9	6	3
Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	13·3		
Stillbirths :—			
Legitimate	6	2	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births	26·3		
Deaths	232	115	117
Death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	13·9		

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth :—	
From Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
From other Puerperal causes ...	Nil
Total	Nil
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ...	Nil
Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—	
All infants per 1000 live births	44·6
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	46·5
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	31
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	1

BIRTHS.

The total number of births was 222. On the estimated population of 16,670 this gives a birth rate of 13·3 per 1000 living, the birth rate of England and Wales being 14·6.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths in the district was 232. This gives a crude death rate of 13·9 per 1000 of the estimated resident population. The Registrar General gives a comparability factor of 0·82 which makes a corrected death rate of 11·4 the death rate for England and Wales being 14·3.

Causes of Death:

The causes of the 232 deaths were as follows:—

	Causes of Death.	*Males*	*Females*
	All Causes	115	117
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—
2.	Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	2
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	—
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9.	Influenza	3	3
10.	Measles	—	—
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—
12.	Acute infantile encephalitis ...	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus (M) and uterus (F) ...	—	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	4
15.	Cancer of breast	—	4
16.	Cancer of all other sites	10	7
17.	Diabetes	—	2
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions ...	13	14
19.	Heart Disease	31	37
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	2	3
21.	Bronchitis	7	13
22.	Pneumonia...	4	3
23.	Other respiratory diseases ...	4	—
24.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2
25.	Diarrhœa under 2 years	—	1
26.	Appendicitis	1	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	5	4

Causes of Death.	Males	Females
28. Nephritis	3	4
29. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	—
31. Premature Birth	2	—
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury	—	3
33. Suicide	—	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	—
35. Other violent causes	5	3
36. All other causes	13	5

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths under one year was 10, giving an Infant Mortality rate of 44·6 per 1000 registered live births, the rate for England and Wales being 55.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The installation of a chlorinating plant for the East Cowes Water was completed during the year. All the supplies are now chlorinated. Complaints were received of too much chlorine in the water from the Somerton reservoirs. These were justifiable and immediate action was taken.

Frequent samples of the raw and treated are taken for analysis.

SECTION D.
HOUSING.

Only 175 houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts and as a result one house was found unfit and 136 not reasonably fit for human habitation.

148 defective dwelling houses were rendered fit, and demolition orders were made in respect of one house.

SECTION E.
INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

All animals are now slaughtered at Government Controlled Slaughter Houses in Newport, Ryde or Wroxall.

When carcases and offal arrive at Allocation Centre, weekly inspection is again carried out before being passed on to local butchers.

UNSOUND FOOD.

The following table shows the amount of unsound food dealt with during the year.

Hind and Fore Quarter Beef	Bone Taint and heated	394
Beef Trimmings	Black Mould	165
Lambs Livers	Unsound	30
3 Pig Carcases	Dropsical	140
4 - 6 lb. tins Tongue. ...	Unsound	24
1 - 6 lb tin Corned Beef...	Unsound	6
Bacon	Unsound	49
Tinned Ham	Unsound	27
Butter	Rancid	112
8 Chickens	Unsound	16
		963 lbs

All the above was taken to Newport to be rendered down, under the Ministry of Food.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Non notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Mumps	11
Chicken Pox	7
Ringworm	5
Scabies	5
German Measles	487
Impetigo	3
Influenza	527
Influenzal Colds	146
	1191

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Cerebro Spinal Fever...	2	2	1
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—
Pneumonia	11	—	3
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
Totals ...	15	3	4

AGE AT DATE OF NOTIFICATION.

Age.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Measles	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
2 ,, 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 ,, 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 ,, 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
5 ,, 10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10 ,, 15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ,, 20	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—
20 ,, 35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ,, 45	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
45 ,, 65	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—	11	—	—	1	2	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	Totals	New Cases.				Totals	Deaths.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Polmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
0 and under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ,, ,, 5	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
5 ,, ,, 10	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 ,, ,, 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ,, ,, 20	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 ,, ,, 25	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
25 ,, ,, 35	4	3	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
35 ,, ,, 45	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 ,, ,, 55	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
55 ,, ,, 65	2	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	15	9	2	4	—	7	4	2	1	—